Savills Research

## Office availability decreases to begin the year but so does leasing activity

After reporting over 2.0 million square feet (msf) of leasing activity in the fourth quarter 2021, leasing activity in the first quarter 2022 dropped significantly to just under 600,000 square feet (sf). While the high amount of leasing activity last quarter was due to a single transaction involving Meta leasing over 707,326 sf, the sharp decrease in leasing activity to begin the year is largely seen as quarterly blip as the overall economy has reopened and companies are trying to get their workers back to the office again. The overall availability rate decreased 90 basis points (bps) from $20.9 \%$ reported last quarter to $20.0 \%$ this quarter. However, the overall availability rate is still up 160 bps from $18.4 \%$ reported a year ago.

## Average rental rates continue to increase as tenant flight to quality persists

The overall average rental rate ticked up from $\$ 4.67$ per square foot (psf) per month reported last quarter to $\$ 4.73$ psf per month this quarter. The Class A average rental rate was also up from $\$ 5.08$ psf per month reported last quarter to $\$ 5.18$ psf per month this quarter. The highest average rents can be found in Mountain View ( $\$ 7.71$ psf), Menlo Park ( $\$ 7.55 \mathrm{psf}$ ), and Palo Alto ( $\$ 6.47 \mathrm{psf}$ ) as Class A buildings have mostly held their rents flat through the pandemic. In addition, the overall tenant flight to quality persists as companies out in the market looking for space continue to focus on new and recently renovated, heavily amenitized, Class A office projects with a focus on health and wellness.

## Increased new construction activity signals optimistic return to office

Significant new construction projects of note include 200 Park in San Jose which is expected to deliver an additional 937,000 sf next year by Jay Paul Company. Over the past year, approximately 3.1 msf of new office space has been delivered to the Silicon Valley office market which has kept market availability high. On the other hand, developers have remained bullish knowing that large technology companies who have been in a war for talent over the past few years will continue to seek out the best office space in the market as they attempt to recruit and retain employees.

## Outlook

- Expect leasing activity to increase this year as technology companies and professional services firms slowly bring their employees back to the office
- The overall tenant flight to quality is expected to continue as many occupiers focus on new and recently renovated projects
- With a robust development pipeline, office availability could remain high depending on the pace of leasing activity this year

Key Statistics

|  | Q1 2021 | Q1 2022 | y-0-y <br> Change |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Inventory | 84.8 MSF | $\mathbf{8 6 . 4} \mathrm{MSF}$ | $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ |
| Availability Rate | $18.4 \%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 . 0 \%}$ | $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ |
| Asking Rental Rate* | $\$ 4.82$ | $\$ 4.73$ | $\boldsymbol{\nabla}$ |
| Class A Asking Rental Rate* | $\$ 5.54$ | $\$ 5.18$ | $\boldsymbol{\nabla}$ |
| Quarterly Leasing Activity | 0.4 MSF | $\mathbf{0 . 6} \mathrm{MSF}$ | $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ |
| Available Sublease Space | 4.4 MSF | $\mathbf{4 . 6} \mathrm{MSF}$ | $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ |
| Monthly |  |  |  |

*Monthly
Office-Using
Employment Growth

Asking Rent and Availability

Average asking rental rate (\$/SF)
Class A average asking rental rate (\$/SF) Class A average asking rental rate (\$/SF)
Total availability rate (\%) - Class A availability rate (\%)


Leasing Activity


## By the Numbers

3.0\%
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara MSA unemployment rate (as of Feb. 2022)

## 3.2\%

Office-using employment growth year-over-year (as of Feb. 2022)
2.6 msf

Office space currently under construction

## Top Transactions

| Tenant | Square Feet | Address | Transaction Type | Submarket | Industry |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Undisclosed | 126,594 | 3111 Coronado Drive | New Location | Santa Clara | Professional Services |
| Calix | 32,496 | 2777 Orchard Parkway | New Location | North San Jose | TAMI |
| Clariant Corporation | 27,609 | 3350 W Bayshore Road | New Location | Palo Alto | Manufacturing |
| HackerRank | 16,918 | 700 E El Camino Real | Renewal | Mountain View/Los Altos | TAMI |
| CNEX Labs | 16,472 | 2880 Stevens Creek Boulevard | New Location | South San Jose | Healthcare |
| The Collective | 8,990 | 2150 N 1st Street | New Location | North San Jose | Retail |
| Techpoint, Inc. | 8,488 | 2550 N 1st Street | Renewal | North San Jose | TAMI |
| Halo Microelectronics International | 6,811 | 695 Campbell Technology Parkway | New Location | Campbell/Los Gatos | TAMI |
| Bill.com | 5,812 | 6220 America Center Drive | New Location | North San Jose | TAMI |
| Arasan Chip Systems, inc | 5,030 | 2150 N 1st Street | New Location | North San Jose | TAMI |

Source: Savills Research

## Availability Rate Comparison (\%)

Silicon Valley Submarkets


Unless otherwise noted, all rents quoted throughout this report are average asking gross (full service) rents per square foot. Statistics are calculated using both direct and sublease information. Current and historical availability and rent data are subject to change due to changes in inventory.

The information in this report is obtained from sources deemed reliable, but no representation is made as to the accuracy thereof. Unless otherwise noted, source for data is Savills Research.

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Rental Rate Comparison (\$/SF)
Silicon Valley Submarkets


